



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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**2006 Idaho Planting Intentions**

Idaho farmers intend to seed 470,000 acres of spring wheat, unchanged from last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Winter wheat seedings, at 750,000 acres, decreased 3 percent from the 2005 crop. Idaho farmers intend to seed 20,000 acres of durum wheat this year, unchanged from 2005. All wheat planted in Idaho is expected to total 1.24 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. Barley seedings are expected to total 600,000 acres, down 5 percent from last season's 630,000 acres. If realized, this will be the lowest recorded acreage for Idaho since 1968. Oat seedings are expected to be 80,000 acres, down 11 percent from last year. Corn plantings are expected to be 230,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Dry bean planting intentions remain unchanged from last year at 100,000 acres. Dry bean estimates include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. All hay harvested, at 1.41 million acres, is expected to remain unchanged from 2005. Sugarbeet plantings are expected to total 188,000 acres, up 11 percent from last year's 169,000 acres planted.

Nationally, producers intend to plant 13.9 million acres of spring wheat this year, down 1 percent from 2005. Winter wheat seedings totaled 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from the 2005 crop. Area seeded to durum wheat is expected to total 1.83 million acres, a decrease of 34 percent from 2005. All wheat planted area is expected to total 57.1 million acres for the 2006 crop, down slightly from 2005. If realized, this will be the lowest all wheat acreage since 1972. Barley growers intend to seed 3.67 million acres for 2006, down 5 percent from last year and, if realized, this will be the lowest barley planted acreage on record. Area planted to dry beans is expected to total 1.71 million acres, up 3 percent from last year and 26 percent above two years ago. Growers intend to plant 78.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 5 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. If realized, this will be the lowest corn acreage since 2001. Acreage actually planted may vary from those indicated as a result of weather, economic conditions, availability of production inputs and the effect of this report itself.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

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